

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - SPECIAL SESSION**

#### **JOINT COMMITTEE ON HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS AND SENATE FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Nancy Ballance and Chair Llew Jones on November 13, 2017 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 317 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)  
Sen. Eric Moore, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. David Howard (D)  
Sen. Doug Kary (R)  
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Mary McNally (D)  
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Sen. Jon Sesso (D)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)  
Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)  
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)  
Rep. Nancy Ballance, Chair (R)  
Rep. Randy Brodehl, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Kelly McCarthy, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Dan Bartel (R)  
Rep. Tom Burnett (R)  
Rep. Rob Cook (R)  
Rep. Mike Cuffe (R)  
Rep. Kimberly Dudik (D)  
Rep. Janet Ellis (D)  
Rep. Carl Glimm (R)  
Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D)  
Rep. Kenneth L. Holmlund (R)  
Rep. Mike Hopkins (R)  
Rep. Donald W. Jones (R)  
Rep. Jim Keane (D)  
Rep. Jon A. Knokey (R)  
Rep. Ryan Lynch (D)  
Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R)  
Rep. Rae Peppers (D)

Rep. Marilyn Ryan (D)  
Rep. Brad Tschida (R)  
Rep. Tom Woods (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Mike Phillips (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Julie Johnson, Joe Triem and Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch  
Phoebe Williams, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 1, 11/9/2017; HB 3, 11/9/2017; HB 4, 11/9/2017; SB 1, 11/9/2017, SB 2, 11/9/2017; SB 3, 11/9/2017  
Legislative Fiscal Division Presentation

00:11:03	Chair Ballance
00:13:58	Sen. Caferro
00:14:21	Chair Ballance
00:14:49	Sen. Caferro
00:14:57	Chair Jones
00:15:09	Sen. Caferro
00:15:21	Chair Jones
00:17:00	Vice Chair Brodehl assumed the Chair

**HEARING ON HB 1**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:17:45 Rep. Nancy Ballance (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 1, Legislation approving fund balance and other transfers as submitted by OBPP.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:19:46	Dan Villa, Director, Office of Budget and Policy Planning (OBPP)
00:20:57	Kris Hansen, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the State Auditor (OSA) ( <i>Informational Witness</i> )
00:23:11	Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT
00:23:49	Jason Rittal, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA)
00:24:26	Claudia Clifford, AARP Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Public Comment:**

00:25:42	Dana Gleason, Mystery Ranch
00:26:45	Linda Howard, Table Tree Montana

00:27:45 Paddy Fleming, Montana Manufacturing Extension Center (MMEC)  
 00:29:36 Karissa Drye, Homeward  
 (*Informational Witness*)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:30:40 Rep. McCarthy  
 00:32:34 Chair Brodehl  
 00:32:47 Rep. Woods  
 00:33:54 Kris Hansen, OSA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:34:31 Rep. Ballance

**HEARING ON HB 3**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:36:01 Rep. Nancy Ballance (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 3, Transfer funds for fire suppression costs.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:37:08 Dan Villa, OBPP  
[EXHIBIT\(aph01a01\)](#)

00:38:29 John Tubbs, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:39:11 Rep. Hamlett  
 00:39:47 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
 00:39:56 Director Villa, OBPP  
 00:40:35 Rep. Keane  
 00:40:55 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
 00:41:27 Rep. Keane  
 00:41:42 Director Tubbs DNRC  
 00:42:14 Rep. Keane  
 00:42:44 Director Villa, OBPP  
 00:43:29 Rep. Keane  
 00:43:42 Director Villa, OBPP  
 00:43:48 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
 00:44:47 Rep. Cuffe  
 00:45:20 Director Villa, OBPP  
 00:45:49 Rep. Cuffe  
 00:46:04 Director Villa, OBPP  
 00:46:12 Sen. Keenan  
 00:46:31 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
 00:46:52 Rep. Ellis

00:47:33 Director Villa, OBPP  
00:48:55 Rep. Glimm  
00:49:38 Director Tubbs, DNRC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:50:20 Rep. Ballance

**HEARING ON HB 4**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:52:15 Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (R), HD 38, opened the hearing on HB 4, Revise state fire assessment to apply to all parcels.

00:53:27 Sen. Vincent

00:59:40 Rep. Ballance assumed the Chair

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:59:50 Director Tubbs, DNRC

**EXHIBIT(aph01a02)**

01:14:29 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association  
01:16:04 Mark Baker, Weyerhaeuser  
01:17:43 Amy Sassano, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:18:33 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MonTax)

01:22:38 John Esp, Self

**EXHIBIT(aph01a03)**

01:24:48 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association

**Informational Testimony:**

01:26:35 Gordy Conn, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:27:10 Rep. Cook  
01:27:46 Director Tubbs  
01:28:13 Michael DeGrosky, DNRC  
01:29:52 Sen. Moore  
01:31:42 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:33:25 Sen. Olszewski  
01:34:04 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:34:42 Rep. Cuffe  
01:37:35 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:38:31 Rep. Brodehl  
01:42:16 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:43:00 Bryce Kaatz, DOR  
01:43:33 Rep. Brodehl  
01:43:46 Bryce Kaatz, DOR

01:43:52 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:44:40 Rep. Woods  
01:47:39 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:48:04 Rep. Glimm  
01:48:39 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:49:20 Chair Jones  
01:50:41 Sen. Vincent  
01:53:34 Sen. Lange  
01:56:37 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
01:57:02 Chair Jones  
01:57:55 Bob Story, MonTax  
01:59:57 Chair Jones  
02:00:06 Sen. Ankney  
02:00:38 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
02:00:45 Rep. Glimm  
02:01:39 Bob Story, MonTax  
02:02:00 Rep. Burnett  
02:02:18 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
02:03:00 Rep. Lynch  
02:03:34 Amy Sassano, OBPP  
02:04:50 Rep. Hamlett  
02:07:11 Sen. Vincent  
02:07:49 Rep. Hamlett  
02:11:58 Director Tubbs, DNRC  
02:12:39 Chair Ballance

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:13:02 Rep Holmlund  
  
02:13:48 Chair Ballance  
02:14:16 Rep. McCarthy  
02:16:09 Chair Ballance  
  
02:17:08 Recess  
04:09:10 Reconvene

**HEARING ON SB 2****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

04:10:26 Sen. Duane Ankney (R), SD 20, opened the hearing on SB 2, Revise laws related to school funding block grants and reimbursements.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

04:15:28 Lance Melton, Montana School Board Association (MTSBA)

**EXHIBIT(aph01a04)**

04:24:22 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana  
04:27:19 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)  
04:30:47 Diane Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition, (MQEC)  
04:31:45 Denise Williams, Montana Association of School Business Officials

04:32:28 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

04:33:13 Director Villa, OBPP

**EXHIBIT(aph01a05)**

04:35:41 Claudia Clifford, AARP Montana

04:36:26 George Wolcott, Forward Montana Foundation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

04:37:24 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

04:40:09 Bob Story, MonTax

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

04:40:56 Sen. Howard

04:41:26 Sen. Ankney

04:41:38 Lance Melton, (MTSBA)

04:42:19 Rep. Woods

04:42:49 Superintendent Arntzen, (OPI)

04:43:01 Lance Melton, (MTSBA)

04:44:57 Rep. Woods

04:45:08 Lance Melton, (MTSBA)

04:45:38 Chair Jones

04:48:21 Lance Melton, (MTSBA)

04:48:46 Rep. Lynch

04:49:16 Director Villa, OBPP

04:50:30 Sen. Whitford

**Closing by Sponsor:**

04:52:46 Sen. Ankney

**HEARING ON SB 1**

**Opening Statement by Cosponsor:**

04:55:01 Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 1, Temporarily suspend employer contributions to judges' retirement system.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

04:55:57 Director Villa, OBPP

04:57:47 Sen. Dee Brown

04:58:18 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

04:59:54 Claudia Clifford, AARP Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

05:00:40 Director Schwinden, Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

05:01:12 Rep. Cuffe  
05:01:38 Director Villa, OBPP  
05:02:19 Rep. Patelis  
05:02:45 Director Villa, OBPP  
05:03:17 Rep. Burnett  
05:03:51 Director Villa, OBPP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

05:05:04 Sen. Osmundson

**HEARING ON SB 3**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

05:05:25 Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 3, Providing a two month state employer contribution holiday.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

05:07:05 Marilyn Bartlett, State Employee Health Plan  
05:11:45 Director Villa, OBPP

[EXHIBIT\(aph01a06\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

05:13:06 Rep. Jones  
05:13:35 Marilyn Bartlett, State Employee Health Plan  
05:14:28 Rep. Woods  
05:14:51 Marilyn Bartlett, State Employee Health Plan  
05:15:13 Chair Ballance  
05:16:10 Rep. Jones  
05:16:38 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT  
05:17:20 Rep. Keane  
05:17:58 Director Villa, OBPP  
05:19:25 Chair Jones

**Closing by Sponsor:**

05:19:39 Sen. Osmundson

**LFD Presentation**

05:20:28 Chair Jones

[EXHIBIT\(aph01a07\)](#)

05:22:15 Director Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

[EXHIBIT\(aph01a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(aph01a09\)](#)

05:29:47 Rep. Burnett  
05:29:53 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:37:15 Chair Jones  
05:37:29 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:42:30 Rep. McCarthy  
05:43:00 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:43:57 Kris Wilkinson, LFD  
05:45:02 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:48:49 Rep. McCarthy  
05:49:07 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:49:15 Joe Triem, LFD  
05:49:53 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:54:12 Sen. Olszewski  
05:54:34 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:56:30 Joe Triem, LFD  
05:57:04 Amy Carlson, LFD  
05:57:30 Sen. Olszewski  
05:57:57 Quinn Holzer, LFD  
05:59:25 Chair Jones  
06:00:06 Quinn Holzer, LFD  
06:00:52 Joe Triem, LFD  
06:04:15 Chair Jones  
06:05:07 Rep. McCarthy  
06:05:23 Joe Triem, LFD  
06:05:57 Sen. Whitford  
06:06:26 Joe Triem, LFD  
06:07:24 Sen. Caferro  
06:07:59 Chair Jones  
06:08:55 Sen. Caferro  
06:09:07 Chair Jones  
06:09:37 Amy Carlson, LFD  
06:10:33 Chair Jones  
06:11:03 Amy Carlson, LFD  
06:11:26 Joe Triem, LFD  
06:14:50 Rep. Cuffe  
06:15:25 Rep. Dudik  
06:16:01 Joe Triem, LFD  
06:17:20 Sen. Sesso  
06:18:34 Chair Jones  
06:21:31 Amy Carlson, LFD  
06:21:44 Rep. Patelis  
06:25:50 Chair Jones  
06:26:09 Rep. Knokey  
06:26:37 Chair Jones  
06:26:59 Rep. Knokey  
06:28:07 Amy Carlson, LFD  
06:29:38 Rep. Knokey  
06:31:15 Amy Carlson, LFD  
06:32:36 Chair Jones  
06:32:51 Amy Carlson, LFD



06:34:24	Chair Ballance
06:34:51	Rep. Woods
06:35:25	Amy Carlson, LFD
06:35:38	Stephanie Morrison, LFD
06:38:04	Rep. Woods
06:38:11	Stephanie Morrison, LFD
06:38:53	Rep. Knokey
06:40:24	Stephanie Morrison, LFD
06:43:04	Chair Jones
06:46:18	Rep. Hamlet
06:47:10	Stephanie Morrison, LFD
06:48:46	Sen. Caferro
06:50:09	Chair Jones
06:50:14	Rep. Knokey
06:51:38	Chair Jones
06:51:52	Chair Ballance
06:52:11	Sen. Sesso
06:52:17	Chair Jones
06:54:39	Chair Ballance
06:55:05	Sen. Sesso
06:56:31	Chair Ballance
06:56:56	Sen. Sesso
06:57:33	Chair Jones
06:58:51	Sen. Sesso
06:59:57	Chair Jones
07:02:10	Chair Ballance
07:02:59	Chair Jones
07:03:21	Sen. Keenan
07:03:50	Chair Jones
07:04:36	Amy Carlson, LFD

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 07:06:26

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Phoebe Williams, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([aph01aad.pdf](#))